

**Amendments to the Claims under Revised 37 C.F.R. § 1.121**

Claim 1 (currently amended): An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence:

- (a) as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3;
- (b) of the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-626;
- ~~(b)~~(c) encoding a polypeptide as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4;
- ~~(e)~~(d) ~~which that~~ hybridizes under at least moderately stringent conditions to the complement of the nucleotide sequence of either any of (a) or (b) - (c), wherein expression of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule has an activity of the polypeptide set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4 in a transgenic animal results in either a decrease in the animal's body weight, a decrease in animal's liver or spleen weight as a percentage of the animal's body weight, or an increase in the animal's thymus weight as a percentage of the animal's body weight; or
- ~~(d)~~(e) that is complementary to the nucleotide sequence of any of (a) - (e)(d).

Claim 2 (currently amended): A recombinant host cell comprising a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of any of Claims 1, 39, ~~or 40,~~ or 48.

Claim 3 (original): The recombinant host cell of Claim 2 which is a eukaryotic cell.

Claim 4 (original): The recombinant host cell of Claim 2 which is a prokaryotic cell.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A process of producing an ~~an~~ FGF-like polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of any of Claims 1, 39, 40, or 48, comprising culturing the recombinant host cell of Claim 2 under suitable conditions to express the polypeptide.

Claim 6 (cancelled).

Claim 7 (currently amended): The process of Claim 5, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises promoter DNA other than the promoter DNA for the native FGF-like polypeptide gene operatively linked to the DNA encoding the FGF-like polypeptide nucleic acid molecule.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of Claims 1, 39, ~~or 40, or 48.~~

Claim 9 (currently amended): A recombinant host cell comprising the vector of Claim 8.

Claim 10 (original): The host cell of Claim 9 which is a eukaryotic cell.

Claim 11 (original): The host cell of Claim 9 which is a prokaryotic cell.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A process for determining whether a compound inhibits FGF-like polypeptide activity or FGF-like polypeptide production comprising exposing a cell according to Claim 2 to the compound, and measuring FGF-like polypeptide activity or FGF-like polypeptide production in said cell.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A process for producing ~~an FGF-like polypeptide~~ encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of any of Claims 1, 39, 40, or 48, comprising culturing the host cell of Claim 9 under suitable conditions to express the polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide can be isolated from the culture.

Claims 14-38 (cancelled).

Claim 39 (currently amended): An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising:  
(a) a region of the nucleotide sequence of either SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3 or the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-626, encoding a polypeptide fragment of at least about 25 amino acid residues, ~~wherein the polypeptide fragment has an activity of the polypeptide set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4, or is antigenic;~~

(b) a region of the nucleotide sequence of either SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3 or the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-626 comprising a fragment of at least about 16 nucleotides; or

(c) a nucleotide sequence that is complementary to the nucleotide sequence of either (a) or (b).

Claim 40 (currently amended): An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 with at least one conservative amino acid substitution, wherein expression of the encoded polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4 in a transgenic animal results in either a decrease in the animal's body weight, a decrease in animal's liver or spleen weight as a percentage of the animal's body weight, or an increase in the animal's thymus weight as a percentage of the animal's body weight;

(b) a region of the nucleotide sequence of (a) comprising a fragment of at least about 16 nucleotides; or

(c) a nucleotide sequence that is complementary to the nucleotide sequence of either (a) or (b).

Claim 41 (previously presented): The process of Claim 5, further comprising recovering the polypeptide from the culture.

Claim 42 (currently amended): A process of producing ~~an FGF-like~~ polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of any of Claims 1, 39, 40, or 48, comprising culturing the recombinant host cell of Claim 9 under suitable conditions to express the polypeptide.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The process of Claim 42, further comprising recovering the polypeptide from the culture.

Claims 44-47 (cancelled).

Claim 48 (new): An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2;

wherein the aspartic acid residue at position 2 may be substituted with a glutamic acid residue;

the threonine residue at position 6 may be substituted with a serine residue;

the valine residue at position 17 may be substituted with a leucine residue;

the glutamine residue at position 75 may be substituted with an arginine residue;

the glutamine residue at position 82 may be substituted with a glutamic acid residue;

the threonine residue at position 98 may be substituted with an alanine residue;

the arginine residue at position 105 may be substituted with a glutamine residue;

the histidine residue at position 145 may be substituted with an arginine residue;

the histidine residue at position 153 may be substituted with an asparagine residue;

the arginine residue at position 154 may be substituted with a glutamine residue;

the alanine residue at position 157 may be substituted with a threonine residue;

the leucine residue at position 167 may be substituted with a methionine residue;

the glutamic acid residue at position 176 may be substituted with an aspartic acid residue;

the glutamine residue at position 184 may be substituted with a glutamic acid residue;

the residue at any of positions 3-5, 7-10, 11, 16, 20, 21, 25, 26, 29, 54, 56, 70, 74, 114, 148-150, 156, 158, 159, 162, 171-173, 175, 177, 178, 180, 182, 198, or 200 may be substituted with any naturally occurring amino acid residue;

and wherein expression of the polypeptide in a transgenic animal results in either a decrease in the animal's body weight, a decrease in animal's liver or spleen weight as a percentage of the animal's body weight, or an increase in the animal's thymus weight as a percentage of the animal's body weight; or

(b) a nucleotide sequence that is complementary to the nucleotide sequence of (a).